

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1, 51 and 59 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This supplemental amendment and reply amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-4, 25-32, 50, 51 and 59 are now pending in this application for examination on the merits, whereby claims 5-18, 21, 22, 33-38, 40-49, 52-58 and 60-78 are also pending but are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Amendments:

Independent claims 1, 51 and 59 have been amended to recite that a local region editing probability is calculated with respect to each local region using a learning image (see paragraphs 0030 and 0045 of the specification), or characteristic of an editing image (see paragraph 0032 of the specification), or an inquiry image (see paragraph 0078 of the specification), whereby these added features are not disclosed or suggested by Peng et al. (thereby providing an additional basis of patentability for these claims, beyond the reasons provided in the amendment and reply filed on August 25, 2009).

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing or a credit card payment form being unsigned, providing incorrect information resulting in a rejected credit card transaction, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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